

## Use Hand-and-Arm Signals to Direct Traffic

191-376-5107

**Conditions:** You are called to a traffic situation requiring military police (MP) assistance. You are given an orange reflector vest, white gloves, and a flashlight during hours of limited visibility.

**Standards:** Use hand-and-arm signals to direct traffic.

### Performance Steps

1. Assume the basic stance as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-1.



Figure 191-376-5107-1  
Basic Stance for Traffic Control

- a. Stand with your feet about shoulder width apart so that your weight is evenly distributed. Do not lock your knees or tense your body.
  - b. Let your hands and arms hang naturally.
  - c. Hold your head and body erect, but not stiff.
2. Direct traffic from the right to proceed straight ahead as shown in Figures 191-376-5107-2 and 191-376-5107-3.
    - a. Look towards the traffic.

**Performance Steps**



Figure 191-376-5107-2  
Direct Right Traffic Straight Ahead, Graphic 1

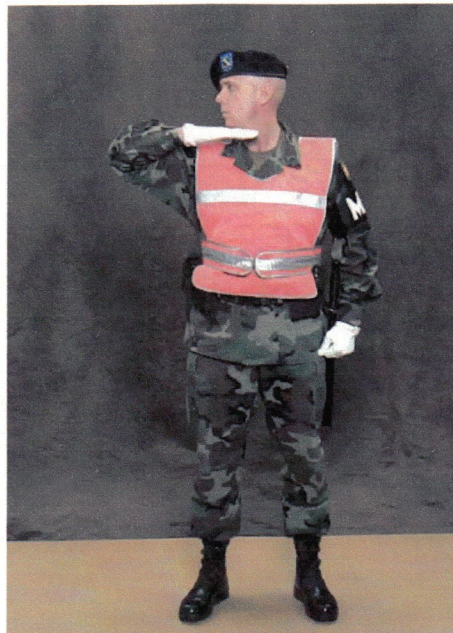


Figure 191-376-5107-3  
Direct Right Traffic Straight Ahead, Graphic 2

- b. Extend your right arm up and out to the right side parallel to the ground. Ensure that your hand is straight, palm up, and fingers extended and together.



**Performance Steps**

- c. With your elbow as a fixed axis, rotate your right forearm across the front of your body so that your hand stops just below your chin with the palm facing down. Do not move any other part of your body.
  - d. Complete the signal by dropping your arm smartly and resuming the basic stance.
3. Direct traffic from the left to proceed straight ahead. This step is the same as step 2 but substitute left for right as in 2b.
4. Direct traffic from the right to turn right.
  - a. Look towards the traffic.
  - b. Extend the right arm towards the traffic, parallel to the ground. Point the first two fingers, palm facing forward, at the vehicle waiting to turn as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-4.



Figure 191-376-5107-4  
Direct Right Traffic in Right Turn, Graphic 1

- c. Use a sweeping motion and bring your hand around to point in the direction the traffic wishes to go as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-5.

## Performance Steps

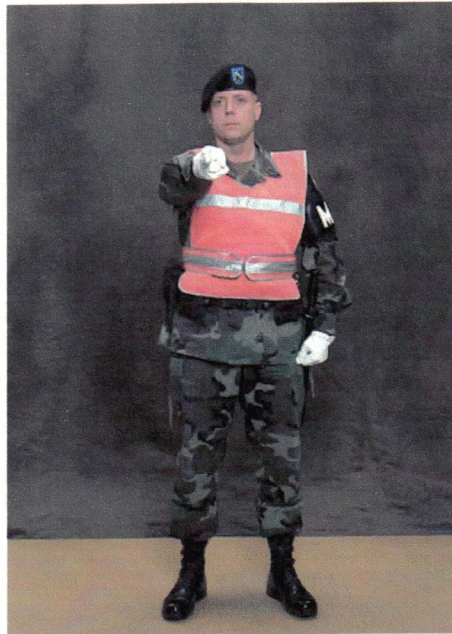


Figure 191-376-5107-5  
Direct Right Traffic in Right Turn, Graphic 2

- d. Return to the basic stance.
- 5. Direct traffic from the left to turn right.
  - a. Look towards the traffic.
  - b. Extend the left arm towards the traffic, parallel to the ground. Point the first two fingers, palm facing forward, at the vehicle waiting to turn as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-6.

**Performance Steps**

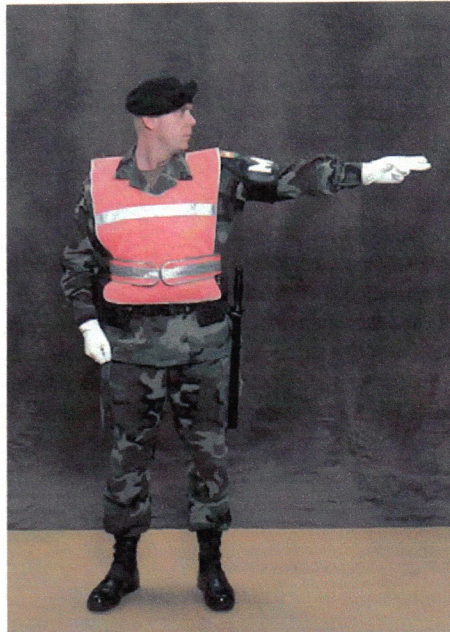


Figure 191-376-5107-6  
Direct Left Traffic to Turn Right, Graphic 1

- c. Sweep your left arm 8 to 10 inches to your rear (to the driver's right and your left) without turning your shoulders or body as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-7.

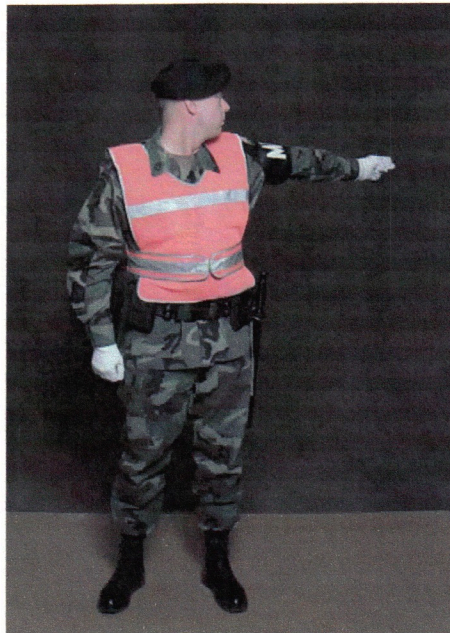


Figure 191-376-5107-7  
Direct Left Traffic to Turn Right, Graphic 2

- d. Return to the basic stance.



**Performance Steps**

6. Direct traffic from the right to turn left.
  - a. Halt traffic on the left. Allow the driver time to react and bring his vehicle to a stop.
    - (1) Look to the left.
    - (2) Thrust your left hand towards the traffic, with the hand flat, palm facing traffic and above your headgear.
  - b. Hold the stop signal and extend your right arm towards the traffic, parallel to the ground. Point the first two fingers of your right hand at the vehicle waiting to turn as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-8.

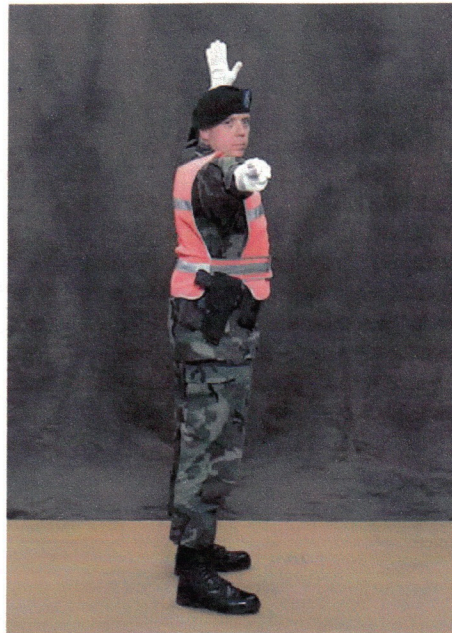


Figure 191-376-5107-8  
Halt Traffic From the Left

- c. Do not turn your shoulders or body and sweep your right arm 8 to 10 inches to the rear to signal the traffic to turn as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-9.

**Performance Steps**

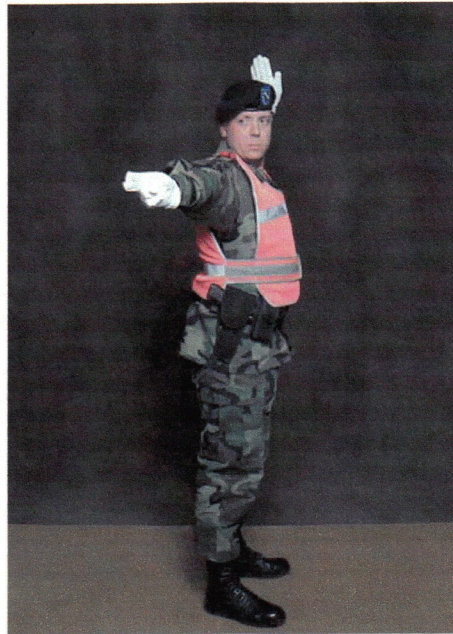


Figure 191-376-5107-9  
Direct Traffic From the Right to Turn Left

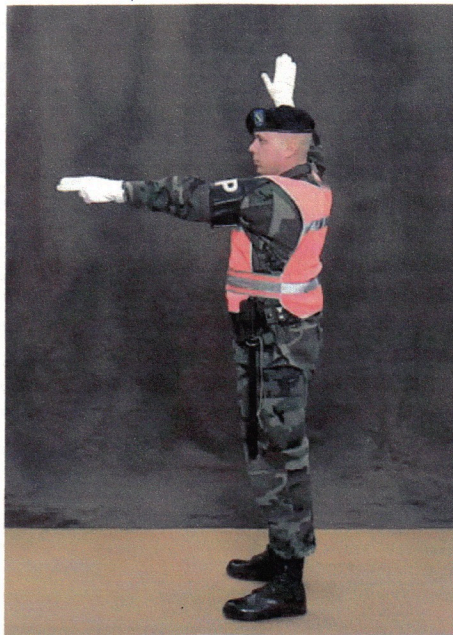
- d. Drop your right arm to your side and, after the vehicle has cleared the intersection, look back towards the waiting traffic on the left.
  - e. Change the left-hand stop signal to a come through signal by rotating your left palm in and your left forearm across the front of your body until your hand is just below your chin. Then, drop your arm and resume the basic stance.
7. Direct traffic from the left to turn left.
- a. Halt traffic on the right the same as you would on the left.
  - b. Hold the stop signal and extend your left arm towards the traffic, parallel to the ground. Point the first two fingers of your left hand at the vehicle waiting to turn as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-10.

**Performance Steps**



**Figure 191-376-5107-10**  
**Halt Traffic From the Right**

- c. Use a sweeping motion and bring your hand around to point in the direction the traffic wishes to go as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-11.



**Figure 191-376-5107-11**  
**Direct Traffic From the Left to Turn Left**



**Performance Steps**

- d. Drop your left arm to your side and, after the vehicle has cleared the intersection, look back towards the waiting traffic on the right.
  - e. Change the right-hand stop signal to a come through signal by rotating your right palm in and your right forearm across the front of your body until your hand is just below your chin. Then, drop your arm and resume the basic stance.
8. Stop traffic from the front.
    - a. Raise your left arm up and out to the front. Keep your fingers together and extended with the palm facing out so that your entire hand is clearly visible to oncoming traffic. Bend your elbow at eye level so that the hand is above your headgear as shown in Figure 191-376-5107-12.



Figure 191-376-5107-12  
Stop Traffic From the Front

- b. Drop your arm and return to the basic stance when the traffic is halted.
9. Stop traffic from the rear.
    - a. Slightly bend your left knee, twist to the right, and turn your head and eyes to the rear. Do not move your feet. Refer to Figure 191-376-5107-13.

**Performance Steps**

Figure 191-376-5107-13  
Stop Traffic From the Rear

- b. Raise your right arm up and out to the rear, fingers extended and together, with your palm facing the traffic. Keep your elbow bent and at eye level.
  - c. Complete the signal, when traffic is stopped, by dropping your arm and returning to the basic stance.
- 10. Change the flow of traffic.
  - a. Look to the right, put up a stop signal with your right arm, and hold that signal (Figure 191-376-5107-14).

## Performance Steps

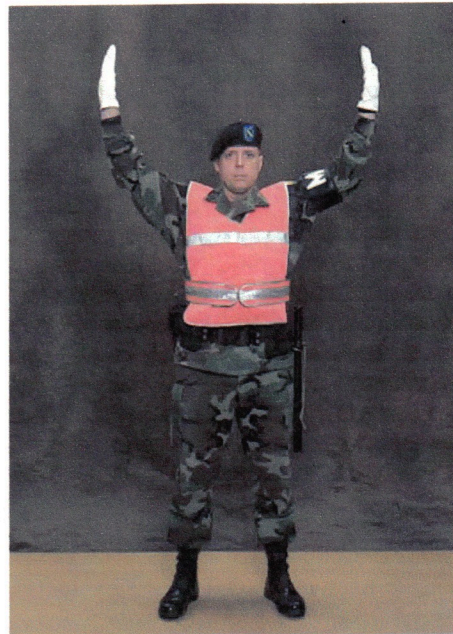


Figure 191-376-5107-14  
Stop Signal for Both Right and Left Traffic

- b. Do the same with the left arm. Refer to Figure 191-376-5107-14.
- c. Turn your body 90 degrees to face the traffic on the right or the left, so that you face the traffic you just stopped.
- d. Change the traffic flow to the left by converting your left-arm stop signal to a come through signal by rotating your palm 180 degrees to face inward. With your elbow fixed, rotate your forearm across and in front of your body until the hand is just under your chin, palm facing down. Complete the signal by dropping your arm.
- e. Change the traffic flow to the right by doing the same as d above, but use your right arm.
- f. Return to the basic stance.

NOTE: If the driver does not appear to understand, repeat the signal.

**Evaluation Preparation:** Setup: Arrange to have personnel drive vehicles so that soldier can be evaluated.

Brief soldier: Remind the soldier that a signal must be repeated if the driver does not respond.

### Performance Measures

	<u>GO</u>	<u>NO GO</u>
1. Assumed the basic stance.	—	—
2. Directed traffic from the right to proceed straight ahead.	—	—
3. Directed traffic from the left to proceed straight ahead.	—	—
4. Directed traffic from the right to turn right.	—	—
5. Directed traffic from the left to turn right.	—	—
6. Directed traffic from the right to turn left.	—	—
7. Directed traffic from the left to turn left.	—	—



**Performance Measures**

8. Stopped traffic from the front.
9. Stopped traffic from the rear.
10. Changed the flow of traffic.

**GO**    **NO GO**

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**Evaluation Guidance:** Score the soldier GO if all steps are passed (P). Score the soldier NO-GO if any step is failed (F). If the soldier fails any step, show him how to do it correctly.

**References****Required****Related**

FM 19-25